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PAGE 01 STATE 120039

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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR KRAUS ALSO

VIENNA FOR MBFR DELEGATION

INFO FOR PAOS

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PAGE 02 STATE 120039

1. HIGHLIGHTS. TUESDAY PAPERS FEATURED SUMMIT START; WEDNESDAY PAPERS FEATURE BREZHNEV PUSHES TRADE APPEAL WITH CONGRESSMEN. INSIDE TUESDAY PAPERS REPORTED TESTIMONY ON TROOPS IN EUROPE BY BALL AND SCHLESINGER; FRIDAY WASHPOST HAS BRIEF GENEVA. SOME ITEMS ON FRENCH TESTS; COMMENT ON AGREEMENTS WITH RUSSIA.

2. GENEVA. WASHPOST HEADS GENEVA UPI, GENEVA ARMS TALKS STILL IN DOLDRUMS, UPI REPORTING 25- NATION CONFERENCE STILL IN DOLDRUMS AS AT SECOND MEETING IN ROW THERE WAS NO SPEAKER; ONLY STATEMENTS SO FAR HAVE BEEN THOSE OF US RUSSIA.

3. TROOPS. TUESDAY NYTIMES HAD WASHINGTON REUTERS REPORTING GEORGE BALL WARNED CONGRESS AGAINST ALLOWING EUPHORIA OVER PROGRESS TOWARD IMPROVED EAST- WEST RELATIONS TO LEAD TO AN EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF SOME AMERICAN TROOPS FROM WESTERN EUROPE, TESTIFYING AT BEGINNING OF HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS ON WITHDRAWAL

RESOLUTIONS. ACCORDING REUTERS, BALL SAID THAT DESPITE PROGRESS TOWARD A BETTER INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE ONE MAY STILL SUSPECT SOVIET LEADERSHIP CONTINUES TO CHERISH POLITICAL AMBITIONS IN WEST. WHEN CHALLENGED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS, BALL SAID: FOR US AT THIS POINT TO GIVE AWAY OUR BARGAINING COUNTERS BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS EVEN START WOULD RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR STEADFASTNESS AND ALSO OUR SANITY.

3 A. WASHPOST BERGER REPORTED THAT WHILE NIXON RECEIVED BREZHNEV AND REDEDICATED THE SUPERPOWERS TO DETENTE BALL WARNED THAT MOSCOW STILL SEEKS POLITICAL DOMINANCE OVER WESTERN EUROPE, HENCE WE SHOULD RIGOROUSLY AVOID ANY PRECIPITATE STEPS TOWARD WITHDRAWING-- OR EVEN SUBSTANTIALLY DIMINISHING-- OUR PRESENCE IN EUROPE AND IT IS IMPERATIVE WE SET AN EXAMPLE OF STEADFASTNESS DURING CRITICAL MONTHS AHEAD WHEN ALLIANCE STRAINS MAY BE MORE SUBTLE AND DANGEROUS THAN EVER BEFORE. ACCORDING BERGER, BALL SAID SOVIET UNION IS NOW CONCENTRATING ON TWO OBJECTIVES: 1, ENCOURAGE REMOVAL OF AMERICAN PRESENCE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 120039

AND INFLUENCE IN EUROPE; 2, DISCOURAGE BUILDING OF EFFECTIVE WEST EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS IN ECONOMIC POLITICAL FIELDS; AND IF MOSCOW SUCCEEDS IN THESE TWIN GOALS, THE SCURRY OF MANY NATIONS TO ACHIEVE ACCOMMODATION COULD BECOME A STAMPEDE.

3 B. TUESDAY WASHPOST HEADLINED GETTLER, EUROPE PULLBACK

PACT SEEN 1 TO 2 YEARS AWAY, GETLER REPORTING SCHLESINGER ESTIMATED BEFORE SENATE ARMED SERVICES THAT IT MIGHT TAKE ANOTHER YEAR OR TWO TO FIND OUT IF AN AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED ON MUTUAL EAST- WEST TROOP CUTS PERMITTING WITHDRAWAL OF SOME OF THE 300,000 US TROOPS STATIONED THERE. GETLER SAID SCHLESINGER EMPHASIZED THAT US TROOP REDUCTIONS SHOULD COME ONLY IF RUSSIANS AGREE TO PULL BACK SOME OF THEIR SIZEABLE FORCES FROM EUROPEAN SOIL, ADDING SCHLESINGER CONCEDED RUSSIANS ARE PROBABLY LESS INTERESTED THAN US IN MUTUAL WITHDRAWAL QUESTION. GETLER REPORTS SCHLESINGER TOLD SENATORS US DEFENSE NEEDS MUST BE BASED ON THE CAPABILITIES OF OUR OPPONENTS RATHER THAN THE ATMOSPHERE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, BUT STATED RUSSIA' S PROGRAM OF MISSILE DEVELOPMENT POSED NO IMMEDIATE THREAT TO WIPE OUT THIS COUNTRY' S RETALIATORY MISSILE FORCE YET A SHIFT IN THE BALANCE OF POWER WOULD COME IN 7 TO 10 YEARS UNLESS THE US KEPT ITS GUARD UP. ON NATO SCHLESINGER SAID HE WOULD BE INCLINED TO AGREE WITH RICHARDSON THAT NATO' S CAPABILITY TO DEFEND ITSELF USING CONVENTIONAL RATHER THAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAS BEEN

UNDERESTIMATED, ADDING THAT WITH A LITTLE BIT OF IMPROVEMENT AND STRENGTHENING NATO WOULD PROVIDE US WITH THE ABILITY TO DETER ANY ADVENTURISM ON PART OF SOVIET BLOC. NYTIMES FINNEY STRESSED SCHLESINGER IS RECONCILED TO A STEADY INCREASE IN MILITARY BUDGET IN VIEW OF MILITARY PAY RAISES.

4. HELSINKI. TUESDAY LATIMES HAD COPENHAGEN AP HEADED, HELSINKI AGENDA GEARED TO PEOPLE, AP SAYING CSCE WILL HAVE UNPRECEDENTED SCOPE, INCLUDING RIGHTS OF FAMILIES TO BE UNITED DESPITE IRON CURTAINS, RIGHT OF PEOPLE TO FREELY CROSS BOUNDARIES, FREE SALE OF BOOKS AND MAGAZINES ACROSS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 120039

FRONTIERS, AND THE TURGID DIPLOMATIC PHRASES OF THE EVENTUAL CONFERENCE DECLARATIONS COULD BE TRANSLATED INTO REAL FOREIGN VACATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL TRIPS SO FAR IMPOSSIBLE.

5. RUSSIAN RELATIONS. UNDER TITLE, A BAD SOVIET- AMERICAN AGREEMENT, WASHPOST SEES NIXON MAKING SERIOUS ERROR IN APPROVING THE AGREEMENT ON CONTACTS, EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION-- IN HIS EAGERNESS TO CARRY OFF A SUCCESSFUL SUMMIT-- IN VIEW OF FACT RUSSIANS HOUND AND BAN SOLZHENITSYN, HUMILIATED AND CAGED ROSTROPOVICH, AND SHUNTED OTHER DISSIDENTS INTO INSANE ASYLUMS, ALSO AT TIME WHEN AMERICAN RADIO BROADCASTS CONTINUE TO BE JAMMED. THIS HAS THE EFFECT, SAYS POST, OF ADDING LEGITIMACY TO SOVIET

SOCIAL CONTROLS AND PRESIDENT RISKS GIVING A BAD NAME TO WHAT IS OTHERWISE A WELCOME ACCOMMODATION BETWEEN TWO GREAT POWERS.

5 A. NYTIMES EDITORIAL WELCOMES FOUR AGREEMENTS SIGNED YESTERDAY, NOTING EXCHANGE AGREEMENT EMBODIES SEVERAL IMPROVEMENTS OVER ITS PREDECESSORS: LONGER LIFE, PHRASING PARTICULAR TYPES OF SCHOLARS IN TERMS OF MINIMUM INSTEAD OF MAXIMUM NUMBERS OF PERSONS, YET TIMES REGRETS THERE ARE NO PROVISIONS FOR SHARPLY INCREASING EXCHANGE OF JOURNALISTS AND IMPROVING THEIR WORKING CONDITIONS. TIMES PRAISES AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT AS RETREAT FROM SOVIET AGRICULTURAL SECRECY SUGGESTING POLITICAL OVERTONES THAT ARE ONLY TO BE ENCOURAGED.

5 B. TUESDAY WASHPOST REPORTED GALLUP POLL REPORTING AMERICANS ARE MORE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD SOVIET UNION THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE WORLD WAR II AND SINCE 1954 FAVORABLE SENTIMENT HAS INCREASED FROM 5 PERCENT TO 34 PERCENT AND UNFAVORABLE SENTIMENT HAS DECREASED FROM 88 PERCENT TO 57 PERCENT. GALLUP ADDS THAT TODAY RESPONDENTS WITH

COLLEGE BACKGROUNDS ARE 51 PERCENT FAVORABLE TOWARD SOVIET UNION, HIGH SCHOOL- EDUCATED ARE 32 PERCENT FAVORABLE AND GRAMMAR- SCHOOL RESPONDENTS ONLY 27 PERCENT; PEOPLE AGED 18 TO 30 ARE MORE FAVORABLY DISPOSED THAN OLDER PERSONS--45 PERCENT HOLDING OVERALL FAVORABLE VIEWS.

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PAGE 05 STATE 120039

6. TESTS. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST HAS WELLINGTON STORY REPORTING NEW ZEALAND'S TRADE UNIONS ARE SET TO BAN THE HANDLING OF ALL FRENCH GOODS, SHIPS AND AIRCRAFTS FROM MIDNIGHT THURSDAY TO PROTEST THE PLANNED RESUMPTION OF TESTING IN PACIFIC BUT BAN WILL NOT AFFECT HANDLING OF GOODS AND SERVICES TO FRANCE'S PACIFIC TERRITORIES WHICH INCLUDE NEW CALEDONIA AND TAHITI.

6 A. TUESDAY WASHPOST HAD PARIS STORY REPORTING FRANCE'S TESTS WILL PROBABLY BEGIN VERY SOON, ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL SOURCES WHICH SAID FRENCH WARSHIPS ARE NOW STEAMING TOWARD MURAROA TEST SITE; BUT FRENCH OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO SAY LITTLE ABOUT THE TESTS, HOPING THUS TO LIMIT OR EVEN STIFLE PROTESTS IN COUNTRIES NEAR THE TEST REGION.

6 B. SATURDAY LATIMES HAD GENEVA UPI REPORTING WORKER DELEGATES AT ILO ASSEMBLY STAGED A WALKOUT FRIDAY WHEN FRANCE DEFENDED ITS ATMOSPHERIC NUCLEAR TEST PROGRAM. UPI ADDED THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION REMAINED IN

PLACE, THOUGH LEADING A MOVE TO CONDEMN THE TESTS, WHEREAS
THE BRITISH AND NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS DIDN' T
TURN UP FOR THE FRENCH SPEECH. ROGERS

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